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developmental relations of the simple vertebrate eye and the compound eye, etc., etc., the reader is referred to the full treatment and the cuts of the original.

E. C. S.

Psychophysische Untersuchungen. Dr. F. C. MÜLLER-LYER. DuBois-Reymond's Archiv. Supplement Band. 1889. pp. 91-141.

This very extensive research is so intimately connected with the many explanatory tables and illustrations, that a resumé of its contents must be confined to a statement of the most general points; special students of psychophysics must go to the article itself for the detailed numerical results and their justification. The article begins by maintaining that it is wrong to speak of *the* psychophysic law, for there may be any number of such laws; the problem is to determine all the conditions that affect sensibility to differences of stimuli, and the intensity is but one of such conditions. There will be here considered the relation of the intensity and the extension of optical stimuli to the sensibility. The author had shown that Weber's law does not hold for sensations of brightness (method of detecting the difference between two differently illuminated discs), but as the stimuli increase, the sensibility increases, though at a constantly decreasing rate. This was tested separately for each eye, with a light disc upon a darker ground or vice versa, for a great range of intensities, etc. This may also be expressed by regarding the effect of the application of the stimulus to be the lowering of the irritability, but not as rapidly as the stimulus increases. It is concluded that for visual sensations, as the stimulus doubles its value, the irritability decreases by one-third its value. Some of these points were specially tested for peripheral regions of the eye, and it was found that such portions are in general more sensitive to the vision of small dots than the fovea, and also that Weber's law seems to hold better for the peripheral than for the foveal portions. Had the sensibility been independent of the intensity of the stimulus, the determination of the relation of sensibility to the extension of the stimulus would be easy; but as it is, we are dealing with two variables at a time, and have the complex problem of determining how the sensibility changes for each intensity when the extension remains constant, and how it changes for each extension when the intensity remains constant. This the author does for visual sensations, expressing the result by a surface in the three dimensions of space. For changes in extension, the general result is that as the surface upon which the judgment of difference of illumination is founded is increased, the sensibility increases, at first relatively rapidly, and then more and more slowly. These relations are subjected to a minute experimentation, the result of which is a series of tables expressing the influence of the changes in any one of the factors of the stimulus upon the rest. The main point is the treatment of the sensibility, not as dependent upon a single variable, but upon several. The article certainly merits detailed study, but the question arises whether these exact and many-sided calculations are warranted by the accuracy of the method, and whether we should not demand a corroboration of these results by other methods before drawing the sweeping generalizations here propounded.

J. J.

Neue Grundlegung der Psychophysik. HUGO MÜNSTERBERG. Beiträge zur experimentellen Psychologie. Heft, 3. Freiburg, 1890. pp. 122.

It is impossible to notice this original and painstaking contribution to Psychophysics without renewing the protest against the undue length to which all the studies of this series have been drawn. It is not sufficient that the spirit of science should enter into the methods of the new Psychology; it must also enter into its exposition, and we feel assured that the author is very considerably diminishing the influence of his